THE COLORED VOTE.

A Cutting Rebuke of Malignant Partisans and Office-Seekers.

It seems strange to find the New York *Times* taking a prominent stand in defense of the South against the charge of suppression of the colored vote, and yet this able journal, at one time foremost among those whose abuse and denunciation of the election methods of the South was characterized by partisan hatred and sectional malignity, contains in a recent issue the most striking protest which has yet appeared in any Northern paper against the bloody shirt policy of the Republicans for 1888.

The *Times* is a Republican paper, but is generally a very fair one. Its criticisms are open and frank, and its course is not controlled by the lash of its party. It believed Mr. Blaine to be a corrupt man and Mr. Cleveland an honest one, and it supported the latter for the Presidency. It did not sever its party alliance, but has since stood with the organization of which it was for many years the chief organ.

In outlining its policy for the next campaign, the Republican party has clearly determined to make the alleged suppression of the colored vote in the South one of its leading issues. On this the *Times* has a column editorial, which is an admirable production, and should commend itself to the fair-minded voters of all parties. It says:

> Those Republican politicians who still think there is capital for their party in keeping up sectional agitation and firing the Northern heart with Southern outrages are trying desperately to make an issue of the alleged suppression of the Republican vote in Southern States. The difficulty which confronts them lies in the fact that the Northern people want no more sectional agitation, and are entirely willing to leave the elections in Southern States to the control of the people of those States.

Speaking of the outrages of the Republican carpet-baggers who overran the South after the war, and of the causes which prompted the necessity of counteracting the evils of their dastardly regime, in which they ran rough shod over the people by their control over the negro vote, the *Times* says:

> Unprepared to exercise intelligently or conscientiously their newly acquired rights, the negroes fell under the leadership of unscrupulous men and were arrayed against the people who had the largest interest in the good order and good government of the reconstructed States. The result was incapacity, extravagance and fraud in public affairs, and a burlesque on popular government. The native Southern people, who felt that they had the right to control affairs in their own States, saw no salvation for their public or private interests except in overcoming the power which was thrust upon them.
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> The North soon admitted that Federal interference to sustain State Governments which rested on the ignorant negro vote and were managed mainly by greedy and unscrupulous adventurers, could not be maintained. Public opinion withdrew all support, and nearly a dozen years ago the whole fabric went to pieces.

As to the so-called suppression of the colored vote in the South at this time, the *Times* dismisses the question, as being an appeal to sectional passion, which can not deceive the intelligent people of the North, saying:

> Outrage, violence and election frauds diminish in proportion as the necessity for them ceased. For the last two years little has been heard of them, but election returns show that many votes are withheld from the ballot box for one reason or another. Colored voters may have become indifferent, after finding that the ills which they were taught to expect from Democratic ascendency did not befall them, and easily induced not to vote. More or less, also, they have begun to divide their votes between the parties. In not voting or in voting for Democratic candidates, they are probably influenced by no worse inducements than are used in Northern States to sway the action of voters whose intelligence and honesty are not sufficient to guide their political action.

Such words, from such a source, can not fail to have effect with the people of the North, who have already rebuked the sectional animosity which a few party bosses have sought to attribute to the Republican party as a whole. Mr. Blaine went to pieces on this rock, and if its present policy is pursued, the Republican party will receive its ultimate defeat in clinging to it.—*Atlanta Constitution.*

NOTES OF THE DAY.

——The man who fired the first gun at Fort Sumter was killed the other day at Charleston in a row. Is it not now safe to regard the war as over?—*Chicago Herald.*

——The idea that the war tariff is to be left at high-water mark forever because any reduction will be an "approach to free trade" is too silly for the wear and tear of a ten-months' campaign.—*N. Y. World.*

——An enthusiastic partisan wants the Republicans to nominate for President the man who once led them to "glorious defeat." Well, there's Fremont and Blaine. Both did it, and either of them can do it again—easily.—*Detroit Free Press.*

——It appears that the Philadelphia *Press* is paid $20,000 for trying to prove that the war tariff increases the wages of working-men. The fund is doubtless raised by the Pennsylvania millionaires who have been importing Hungarian laborers into this country.—*Albany (N. Y.) Argus.*

——Our Republican friends are quite annoyed with James Russell Lowell for thinking Grover Cleveland is the best President we have had since Abraham Lincoln. They would feel less annoyed with him were it not for the fact that so many thousands of Mr. Lowell's fellow-citizens heartily agree with him.—*Boston Globe.*

——Some hopeful Republican has evolved a theory that his ticket will be elected this year because "the year with three eights in it is lucky to the Republicans." In view of the failure of the political records to show a Republican victory in A. D. 888, or 888, 1888 or 2888 B. C., this view is evidently founded on the conviction that the year with three eights in it must be luckier than the year with three R's in it.—*Pittsburgh Dispatch.*

PREPARE FOR WORK.

Urgent Need of Democratic Effort During the Presidential Campaign.

The results of the Presidential campaign which has already opened will make American history for at least a quarter of a century to come. While there is every prospect of Democratic success, there is urgent need of Democratic work. It should begin at once. In Democratic States, Republican States and doubtful States the party should be more thoroughly organized than it has ever been before.

Recognizing 1888 as a decisive year for it, the Republican party has already begun the work of organization, and it will do every thing possible to deliver its full vote.

The Democratic party does not need a vast political machine such as the Republicans seek to put in operation, but it does need association among Democrats for educational work. There ought to be a Democratic association in every city precinct and every country district. The influence of such associations, formed now and maintained for better education in the fundamental principles of Democracy, would be more powerful for good than any work possible after the nominations have been made. It is a generation since the Republican party came into existence, and in the nature of things it ought to pass out of existence with its generation. It can not maintain its present organization on the old issues, and new issues threaten it with disruption. The influence of the new generation will decide the Presidential election this year, and in so doing decide whether the new generation is to be hampered in the work it has to do by the dead issues of the dead past. The men who are doing the hardest work of the country to-day in all lines of business are men of the new generation, and the success of the Democratic party will be their success. If they associate themselves together in their several localities they will exert a moral force that will count for more than their votes. There is actual work to do besides. A district association which did nothing else than take care that the President's message should find its way to every voter in its district would do more for the cause of good government than will be done by all the eloquent speeches of the campaign.

It is a campaign that will be decisive, and every Democrat should meet his responsibility and do his share in making it decisive for the right.—*St. Louis Republican.*

DEMOCRATIC POLICY.

Why the Spirit of Democracy Is Opposed to Unjust Taxation.

The Democratic party, through its traditions, its platforms and its President, is committed to these principles:

(1.) The Government has no constitutional or moral right to collect a revenue in excess of the needs of its economical administration. Unnecessary taxation is unjust taxation. Unjust taxation is tyranny, whether imposed in a monarchy or a republic.

(2.) A surplus in the Treasury is a National evil, and may become a National peril. It is a standing temptation to extravagance. It may perpetuate high taxes for a long period by leading to the inauguration of expenditures that will be continuous. The way to deal with a surplus is to stop its collection.

(3.) The taxes to be first abated are those which bear heaviest upon the greatest number of people—namely, taxes upon universal necessities and the essentials of manufactures. Hence, the food, the fuel, the shelter and the clothing of the people and the raw materials of the manufactures should be first relieved in any reduction of taxation.

These are Democratic principles. They should constitute the Democratic policy. Whatever compromise may be required to secure the best attainable result it is the business of statesmanship to make. Statesmanship has been defined to be "the science of the practical," and the practical duty before Congress is the prevention of the surplus.

But the President is entitled to the thanks of the country and to the united support of his party in his courageous stand for sound principles.—*N. Y. World.*

Sherman a Weathercock.

In his recent tariff speech Senator Sherman said that the 8-cent revenue tax on tobacco "was a burden to the farmer and to the consumer." On February 10, 1883, pending the consideration of the clause relating to internal taxes on snuff and manufactured tobacco, which the bill, as reported, placed at 12 cents per pound after July 1, 1883, Senator Beck moved to make the rate 8 cents, which was agreed to despite the fact that Senator Sherman voted "No," If the 12-cent rate was not a burden to the farmer and to the consumer in 1883, what makes the 8-cent rate so now? John Sherman is a fraud and a weathercock. On February 16, 1883, Senator Gorman moved for the repeal of the internal-revenue tax on tobacco, snuff and cigars. His motion was rejected by a vote of 7 yeas to 47 nays, Senator Sherman voting "No," as he did upon every proposition to reduce the internal-revenue taxes on tobacco and liquors. Senator Sherman is a fraud and a political weathercock.—*Chicago News.*

"I am out of the fight," says Sherman, in jest;
"I am but an on-looker in Venice."
Ah, Senator, candor in all things is best.
The fight's out of you. Let the truth be confessed.
The chunk you've bit off with such spirit and zest
Is too large to chew and too tough to digest.
Your role is not Barkis, but Dennis.
—*Chicago Tribune (Rep.).*

MAN'S SUPERIORITY.

The Fallacy of the Proposition From a Feminine Standpoint.

Let us take the point of bodily strength. It is a matter of common observation that women are weaker than men; yet if we examine critically the grounds of this belief we shall find many curious anomalies which merit attention and raise a doubt whether the sex, after all, be inherently weaker or only accidentally enfeebled by modern habits. An indoor life, an inconvenient and unhealthy dress, absence of gymnastics and athletic sports in girlhood and food frequently inferior must act to the disadvantage of women. But how much of the muscular weakness of women may be due to sex and how much to these preventable circumstances no one has yet taken the trouble to inquire. The Anthropometric Committee of the British Association have recently published the results of experiments testing the relative strength of men and women, and report an advantage decidedly on the side of men. The experiments on which the report is based gauged the strength of the arm alone. Now, the blow of the arm is precisely the point in which men are relatively strongest and women relatively weakest. Man has ever been a combative animal, striking and fighting with the arm both his own kind and nature. The shoulder is therefore greatly developed. Women, as the guardians of infant life, have their chief strength in supporting burdens. The lower limbs are more muscular than the upper, and the weights they can be trained to carry are enormous. Miss Gordon Cumming relates how she was startled at the loads borne by the women of China. The Indian squaws travel great distances with children on their backs and tents and baggage piled high above them. The testimony of Hearn, the American traveler, is interesting and is quoted with approval by Captain Galton. "Women," said he, "were made for labor. One of them can carry or haul as much as two men can do. They also pitch our tents, make and mend our clothing and, in fact, there is no such thing as traveling any considerable distance without them. Women, though they can do any thing, are maintained at trifling expense, for, as they always stand cook, the very licking of their fingers in scarce times is sufficient for their subsistence." Galton himself shares this opinion. "There are few greater popular errors," he writes, "than the idea we have mainly derived from chivalrous times that woman is a weakly creature." DeSaussure, in his account of his travels in the then secluded valley of Zermatt, relates how he packed a box with mineral specimens and desired to have a man found to carry it into the next valley to meet the coach. No man in the district, he was told, was capable of even lifting such a weight; but if he would allow a woman to be employed it could be managed without trouble. A woman accordingly carried the box in triumph over the steepest roads to its destination.—*Woman's World.*

FEEDING MILL-STUFFS.

A Noted Farmer's Experience in Giving Mixed Food to Cattle.

In the course of a conversation on the question of feeding millstuffs to cattle, a noted farmer related his experience as follows: "Some years ago I found myself considerably short of feed, owing to an exceedingly dry summer. The corn and hay crops fell far below the average and beef sold at a miserably low figure. I had quite a herd of cattle more than I could carry through the winter, I feared; yet I would not sell my cows at from five to ten dollars per head, which was about all they brought at that time. So I bought limited quantities of bran, had all my corn ground, and stowed away for feed nearly all my straw. After the corn stalks were exhausted I had to rely entirely on straw and a small allowance of bran and corn-meal. At the outset I fed the bran separately, and my cows soon refused to eat the straw. So, in order to get the better of them I moistened the straw and mixed the bran with it, with the hope that they would consume all the straw. It had the desired effect, and, what I had not in the least anticipated, my cows yielded a much larger quantity of milk. This I could not at first account for, but finally came to the conclusion that the new ration must have something to do with it. So, in order to make sure of it, I returned to the old method in the course of a few weeks. As before, they refused to eat the straw, but no corn-meal was given to them until the straw ration was consumed. There was at once a noticeable decline in the flow of milk, and I was convinced that feeding millstuffs and coarse fodder in combination was the proper way."

The experience of many farmers coincide with the above, but why does it make a difference whether it is mixed after or before it enters the stomach? Well, let us see. Cattle, as ruminants, have a stomach with four divisions or cavities. The food when first swallowed is received in the first cavity, except such portions as are already dissolved in the mouth, and such fine food as bran, linseed meal, etc. These do not stop in the first cavity, but pass directly to the third and fourth divisions. This applies to full-grown cattle only, as experiments made in this direction tend to show that this is not the case with young cattle. It would probably not be out of place to state how these facts were ascertained. Two fat cows and a steer being about to be butchered, were fed—about an hour before they were killed—several quarts of corn-meal. After the animals were killed the stomachs were examined. Nearly all the corn meal was found in the third and fourth cavities of the stomachs of the cows, while in the case of the steer it was nearly all found in the first cavity.

Now all food that is to be thoroughly digested must first be received in the first cavity, be acted upon by the secretions of the walls of that cavity, then discharged into the second cavity and likewise be acted upon by the secretions of the walls of that cavity, here formed into cuds, and these returned to the mouth to be rechewed. This pulp, mixed with saliva, is then received in the third cavity of the stomach to be prepared for the fourth, where digestion is finally completed. Now when bran or mill-feed is fed in connection with coarse fodder, by far the greater portion of it will go through the entire course of digestion, and hence will produce the desired effect. But if mill-stuffs are fed alone, the larger part of it is excreted undigested, and hence its beneficial effects are of small significance. Every farmer has observed that when cattle have eaten small grain, part of it is excreted undigested. It is precisely the same with bran and coal-meal, only in a greater degree, but it does not become apparent in the excrements because of its fineness.

In view of these considerations it is quite plain that in order to obtain the best results we should feed mill-stuffs only in combination, and not simply because the animal will consume more coarse fodder and insure a thorough digestion of the fine feed, but because it is absolutely necessary for the well being of the animal.—*Rural Home.*

VALUE OF EGGS.

A Food That No Honest Appetite Ever Yet Rejected.

Eggs are a meal in themselves. Every element necessary to the support of man is contained within the limits of an egg-shell, in the best proportions and in the most palatable form. Plain boiled, they are wholesome. The masters of French cookery, however, affirm that it is easy to dress them in more than five hundred different ways, each method not only economical, but salutary in the highest degree. No honest appetite ever yet rejected an egg in some guise. It is nutriment in the most portable form and in the most concentrated shape. Whole nations of mankind rarely touch any other animal food. Kings eat them plain as readily as do the humble tradesmen. After the victory of Muhldorf, when the Kaiser Ludwig sat at a meal with his burggrafs and great captains, he determined on a piece of luxury—"one egg to every man and two to the excellently valiant Schwepperman." Far more than fish—for it is watery diet—eggs are the scholar's fare. They contain phosphorus, which is brain food, and sulphur, which performs a variety of functions in the economy. And they are the best of nutriment for children, for, in a compact form, they contain every thing that is necessary for the growth of the youthful frame. Eggs are, however, not only food—they are medicine also. The white is the most efficacious of remedies for burns, and the oil extractable from the yelk is regarded by the Russians as an almost miraculous salve for cuts, bruises and scratches. A raw egg, if swallowed in time, will effectually detach a fish bone fastened in the throat, and the white of two eggs will render the deadly corrosive sublimate as harmless as a dose of calomel. They strengthen the consumptive, invigorate the feeble and render the most susceptible all but proof against jaundice in its more malignant phase. They can also be drunk in the shape of an "egg flip" which sustains the oratorical efforts of modern statesmen. The merits of eggs do not even end here. In France alone the wine clarifiers use more than 80,000,000 a year, and the Alsatians consume fully 88,000,000 in calico printing and for dressing the leather used for making the finest of French Kid gloves. Finally, not to mention various other employments for eggs in the arts, they may, of course, almost without trouble on the farmer's part, be converted into fowls, which, in any shape, are profitable to the seller and welcome to the buyer. Even egg shells are valuable, for allopath and homeopath alike agree in regarding them as the purest of carbonate of lime.—*London Standard.*

The Beautiful in Women.

She that has a rich womanly soul, however moderately gifted with talent or beauty, has a luster around her of purity and grace more engaging than any brilliancy of talent or splendor of beauty. It is never coarse garments or plain features that offend; hearts the gentlest and the noblest have beaten against home-spun, and features not of Grecian mold have been shrines to genius worthy of the gods. That which really does offend and shock is the harsh voice, the ungentle look, speech, mindless and unmusical; these things in women give us more than common pain, because they disappoint, because they disenchant, because they contradict the faith which we cherish, and rightly cherish, in the diviner humanity that we attribute to woman's nature.—*Henry Giles.*

—Wethers should not be sent to market until very fat, as no carcass shows to better effect on the stalls when fat than that of the sheep, while the increase in the price for quality will often repay the cost of keeping the sheep. Good wethers find ready sale at all seasons, but there are large numbers of inferior ones shipped to the cities.

CIMARRON TERRITORY.

How the Inhabitants of No-Man's-Land Govern Themselves.

The "Territory of Cimarron," or "No-Man's-Land," is an anomaly in the heart of the country. It is without government or ownership. It lies between Indian Territory and New Mexico and Kansas and Texas. No-Man's-Land is, perhaps, on the whole, the most appropriate name for it. It is no man's land, and no man, or no set of men, assume to direct or regulate its affairs with lawful authority. In the last Congress a bill passed both houses to annex the strip of territory to Kansas for judicial purposes, and to provide that the land should be open to settlement under the Homestead law, but that no settler should receive a patent for his holding until after five years' continuous residence thereon. After the bill had passed the Speaker learned incidentally that there was a job in it and that some Kansas landsharks were preparing for a holiday, and he induced the President to withhold his signature. So No-Man's-Land is still no man's land, and it is not recognized as a part and parcel of Uncle Sam's estate. There are about 7,000 people settled in the little territory, and they have formed a kind of communal government for their own protection. No-Man's-Land is 167 miles long by 34½ wide and comprises 3,687,360 acres. It is fertile, well watered, has valuable deposits of coal and a delightful climate. The inhabitants are mostly squatters from Kansas, Missouri and Texas. They are characteristic pioneers, and in the absence of laws have adopted rules for their own government. Not long ago a tough customer moved in from Colorado and refused to conform to the rules of the community. He was ordered to depart and refused. A committee waited on him to enforce his departure. He killed two of them. He was arrested, tried and sentenced to death. A public meeting was held and three men were selected to carry out the death penalty. They did so. Since then there has been peace. The communal organization has been in existence for four years. During that time there has been only four murders. There is a kind of committee of public safety that attends to the preservation of peace and order. There are churches and school-houses, court houses and villages erected and maintained by the voluntary contributions of the inhabitants. The people are now asking Congress to give them a Territorial form of government. It is not improbable that the Territory of Cimarron will be created by the present Congress, and that No Man's Land will become some man's land at last. The bona fide residents of the region could get along comfortable under their own rules, but they need a recognized form of government to protect them from traveling scalawags and neighboring desperadoes.—*St. Louis Republican.*

THE ASTOR FAMILY.

Its Combined Wealth Stands Without a Parallel in the World.

The death of Mrs. John Jacob Astor gives Mrs. William Astor the leadership of New York society. The Astor family has its distinctive head, and all the other members are subordinate to it and occupy their fixed place in the scale of authority and respect in the family. The recognized head of the family has been for years Mr. John Jacob Astor, the husband of the lady who has just died. He is about sixty-seven years old, and fairly well preserved. Such little business activity as he has permitted to himself during the course of his life he still maintains. This means regular visits to his office and the supervision of its affairs to the extent, at least, of drawing his income, and directing, in a general way, its disbursement. He lives on the southwest corner of Fifth avenue and Thirty-fourth street, in a house that is unpretentious in its external appearance, and particularly modest in comparison with the marble palace of the late Alexander Stewart, just across the way. The house is of brick, devoid of marked trimmings, and has for its chief peculiarity a remarkably high stoop and plain entrance. There is a lot between Mr. John Jacob Astor's house and the brick house just south of him. In the brick house his brother, Mr. William Astor, lives. John Jacob still remains the head of the family, but, through the death of his wife, Mrs. William Astor will become the leader of New York society. The manner in which this lady is distinguished from the other Astors is by the marking of her visiting cards and by the printing of her name upon social invitations, etc. The head of the family is known simply as "Mrs. Astor," and any other Astor in the family must place her initial or the given name of her husband before the word "Astor" upon her cards or other social documents.

The late Mrs. John Jacob Astor's only child was Mr. William Waldorf Astor. He married Miss Paull, of Philadelphia, about six years ago, and the ceremonies attending the wedding made a red-letter day in New York social history, and will be long remembered by those who took part in them or witnessed them. He lives on East Thirty-third street, near Fifth avenue, not far, therefore, from the family mansions of his father and uncle. Mrs. William Waldorf Astor's brother married millionaire Drexel's daughter not long ago. It will be seen from this that the immediate family of the head of the houses is a small one, but the family of Mr. William Waldorf Astor, brother to John Jacob, is comparatively large. His wife was Miss Schermerhorn, daughter of the late Mr. Schermerhorn, himself a man of great wealth.

In certain ways she is better fitted than her sister-in-law was to be the leader of New York society. She enjoys festivities much more, and is a more vivacious actor in them. She has four living children. Her oldest daughter, Mrs. James J. Van Alen, has been dead about six years. Her second daughter, Helen, is now Mrs. Roosevelt Roosevelt. This gentleman of the double name is an ideal specimen of stalwart aristocracy, and most of his energies are devoted to the exercises of the Country Club. He is of course a man of great wealth, and devotes no time to business. The third daughter in this family, formerly Miss Augusta Astor, is now Mrs. Coleman Drayton. She has two children. The daughter Helen, just referred to, has three. Another daughter, Carrie, is now Mrs. Orme Wilson, and the remaining child of this union is John Jacob Astor, Jr., who was graduated recently from Harvard College and made his first plunge into New York society this fall. There was to have been a grand ball given in his honor on the 9th of January, but the death of his aunt postponed this and all other festivities in which the Astor family might naturally engage during the season. All these married members of the Astor family live in this city, most of them upon the fashionable part of Fifth avenue, and they have elegant country seats in different parts of the country. That of Mr. William Astor is at Rhinebeck, on the Hudson, and they all have temporary homes at Newport.

The combined wealth of this remarkable family probably stands without a parallel in the world. It has been the steady endeavor of the living members of the family to underestimate their possessions in order that they might not arouse the too bitter jealousy of that part of the population which looks inimically at hoarded wealth. For this reason John Jacob Astor has never given any authority for statements of his wealth that put the figures beyond $100,000,000, and, ordinarily, this sum is looked upon as the limit of his possessions. Nevertheless, it is a conservative estimate. The family is constantly buying new real estate, and the income, in the shape of rents, brings about an accumulation of actual cash much greater than they can conveniently dispose of. But taking $100,000,000 as a basis, and adding to it the fortune of his brother William, which is more than half as great, and the fortunes possessed by the husbands of the married daughters of the family, there would be a total that could not fall short of $250,000,000.—*N. Y. Sun.*

THE JUGGLER'S WAND.

How an Eastern Magician Destroyed Dogs in a Surprising Way.

In Batavia a Parsee juggler treated the Dutch residents to a novel matanza, or killing show, in the circus of the old city bull-ring.

His victims were a number of worthless curs which their owners or captors had brought along with the distinct understanding that their entries would not survive the incidents of the performance. With no weapon but a light stick (possibly a tube), some six feet long by an inch in diameter, the performer entered the arena, and then invited his patrons to start their pets, one at a time. A lank hound, almost hairless with mange, opened the festivities by making a rush round the ring, but stopped short on finding his way barred by the still lanker professor, and retreated after displaying his few remaining teeth. The necromancer held his staff at arm's length, still facing the dog, who presently began to stagger, and two minutes after had expired in convulsions. A second cur managed to run the blockade by leaping over the extended staff, but soon after began to show signs of distress, and before the end of the third minute had shared the fate of his predecessor. Dog after dog entered the ring in quick succession, some of them stopping in surprise and sniffing at the corpses of their doomed forerunners, but all finally approached the possessor of the fatal secret, or even snapped at his naked shins, and not one of the one thousand spectators saw him strike a direct blow, or defend himself in any way suggesting a mechanical explanation of the uniform result. He would merely lift his staff with a menacing gesture or permit a blockade-runner to touch it in darting by, but in no instance was there occasion for repeating that touch. The victims had hardly time to complete the circuit of the ring before their gait underwent a peculiar change; they would drag themselves along and stagger, or start as under a sudden blow, then roll over and die in the convulsions characterizing the effects of certain virulent drugs. They had evidently been poisoned; but how? A post mortem inquest failed to reveal as much as a scratch or a puncture. A poisoned arrow could not have entirely disappeared, while a gaseous poison would have betrayed itself by its odor or by its effects on the person of the performer. After the conclusion of the matanza Mr. Gerstecker secured a private interview with the artist, and in vain offered him a liberal inducement to explain the modus operandi of his trick. The Parsee seemed bribe-proof, but at last took his tempter aside and in a whisper guaranteed the results of his professional assistance if mynheer should wish to try the efficacy of his art by an experiment on a two-legged subject—the amount of the proffered compensation having evidently suggested a conjecture that the enterprising foreigner was contemplating the removal of some obnoxious fellow-biped!—*Cosmopolitan.*

—The assessed valuation of North Dakota is $71,000,000.